Integrated railway modernisation plan

76. SHRI O. T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any integrated railway modernisation plan in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds earmarked for implementation of the above plan in the country; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Integrated Railways Modernisation Plan (IRMP) has been formulated for 2005—2010 identifying activities with definite time-frame for implementation. It has got 3 segments, the details of which are as under:

Passenger Business Segment includes increased induction of modem coaches in all Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains, expansion of Passenger Reservation System (PRS) and Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS) across the country, Environment Friendly toilets in coaches, Improved Safety features in coaches in terms of its crashworthiness and fire retarding features.

Freight Business Segment includes Introduction of Higher Axle Load, Double Stack Container and Roll-on-Roll-Off wagons on the identified routes, Introduction of light weight and corrosion resistant steel and aluminium wagons, Extension of Freight Operations Management System to cover Terminal, Rake and Crew Management System, completion of works identified under National Rail Vikas Yojana (NRVY) along with some other Throughput Enhancement works, etc.

Other Modernisation Initiatives includes Track Modernisation and its maintenance practices, Modernisation of Bridge Management System, Signaling and Telecommunication System, Mechanical and Electrical System and the Disaster Management System.

(c) Total Expenditure envisaged for execution of the identified items in the IRMP is about Rs. 24,000 Crores.

(d) The major items of works to be executed in the current financial year are as under;

1. Completion of Throughput Enhancement works.
2. Development of modem freight terminals.
3. Introduction of Double Stack Containers.
4. Ware-housing facilities near rail terminals.
5. Expansion of Passenger Reservation System (PRS) and Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS).
6. Track, Bridge and Signal modernisation.

Additional local trains starting from Vasai

77. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any request from the people of Nallasopara, Virar and Vasai areas for additional local trains starting from Vasai needed to be increased and also the suburban **trains**